DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 357 363 CS 213 817

AUTHOR	Van Noate, Judith, Comp.
TITLE	American Writers: A Research Guide on 19th and 20th Century Authors.
INSTITUTION	North Carolina Univ., Charlotte. J. Murrey Atkins Library.
PUB DATE	[92]
NOTE	21p.; For other guides in this series, see ED 329 982-989 and CS 213 815-816.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055) -- Reference Materials - Bibliographies (131)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Authors; College Libraries; Higher Education; Library Guides; *Library Materials; Library Skills; Literary Criticism; *Nineteenth Century Literature; *Reference Materials; *Twentieth Century Literature; *United States Literature
IDENTIFIERS	University of North Carolina Charlotte

ABSTRACT

This handout is a guide to library resources in the J. Murrey Atkins Library at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, intended to help students find sources of criticism on literature (long fiction, short fiction, poetry, and drama) by American authors. The guide explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals. The guide is organized in six sections: (1) General Reference Books (for any author and all forms of literature); (2) Books (on individual authors and their work); (3) Reference Works (criticism, and bibliographies and checklists); (4) Periodical Indexes; (5) Book Reviews; and (6) Periodicals and Serials List (PASL). (SR)

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ED357363

American Writers

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BETH BARTHOLOMEW

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AMERICAN WRITERS

A RESEARCH GUIDE
ON 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AUTHORS

Compiled by Judith Van Noate
Reference Librarian
Reference Unit, Atkins Library, UNC-Charlotte

This guide is intended to help you find sources of criticism on literature (long fiction, short fiction, poetry, drama) by American authors. It explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals.

It is arranged as follows:

1. GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS
   (may be used for any author
   and all forms of literature)

2. BOOKS on individual authors and their work

3. REFERENCE WORKS
   a. Criticism
   b. bibliographies and checklists

7. PERIODICAL INDEXES

8. BOOK REVIEWS

9. P.A.S.L

REFERENCE BOOKS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

If you are looking for information about an author and are not sure where to begin, or if you need some basic information about a type or genre of literature, the following is a good source:

Ref PS 21 H3 1983	Oxford Companion to American Literature Short "overview" type biographical sketches. A particularly useful feature of this book is the "Chronological Index," pp. 861-896, which "is a year-by-year outline in parallel sequence of . . .social and literary history..."

Ref PS 129 R44 1987	Reference Guide to American Literature "The entry for each author includes a biography, a complete list of the writer's published books, a selected list of bibliographies and critical studies on the writer, and a signed critical essay."

There are many other "companions" and "encyclopedias" to the literatures of various nationalities in the reference collection. You can look in ALADDIN under the subheading "dictionaries." Example: American literature--dictionaries.

SOURCES OF BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL INFORMATION

Gale Literary Criticism Series

This group of reference works provides a comprehensive source for biographical and critical information on authors. Atkins Library owns all of the titles on this list except Authors in the News. The various volumes in the series cover Antiquity to the present.

AAYA: *Authors & Artists for Young Adults*, Volumes 1-7
CA: *Contemporary Authors* (original series), Volumes 1-135
CAAS: *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series*, Volumes 1-14
CABS: *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series*, Volumes 1-3
CANR: *Contemporary Authors New Revision Series*, Volumes 1-35
CAP: *Contemporary Authors Permanent Series*, Volumes 1-2
CA-R: *Contemporary Authors* (first revision), Volumes 1-44
CDALB: *Concise Dictionary of American Literary Biography*, Volumes 1-6
CLC: *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, Volumes 1-69
CLR: *Children's Literature Review*, Volumes 1-25
CMLC: *Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism*, Volumes 1-8
DC: *Drama Criticism*, Volume 1
DLB: *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Volumes 1-112
DLB-DS: *Dictionary of Literary Biography Documentary Series*, Volumes 1-9
DLB-Y: *Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook*, Volumes 1980-1990
LC: *Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800*, Volumes 1-18
NCLC: *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, Volumes 1-34
PC: *Poetry Criticism*, Volumes 1-3
SAAS: *Something about the Author Autobiography Series*, Volumes 1-13
SATA: *Something about the Author*, Volumes 1-66
SSC: *Short Story Criticism*, Volumes 1-8
TCLC: *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Volumes 1-43
YABC: *Yesterday's Authors of Books for Children*, Volumes 1-2

Those that may be most useful for your research include:

Ref
PN
771
C59

Contemporary Literary Criticism

CLC "presents significant passages from published criticism of works by today's creative authors." Citations are given for each excerpt (you can then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to find the journal with the full text of the criticism). Entries are several pages long. Use the "Cumulative Index to Authors" at the end of the last volume in the series for the fullest coverage of an author.

Baldwin, James (Arthur)
1924-1987 ..... **CLC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 13, 15, 17, 42, 50, 67; DC 1**
See also BLC 1; CANR 3,24; CA 1-4R; obituary CA 124; CABS 1; SATA 9, 54; DLB 2, 7, 33; DLB-Y 87; CDALB 1941-1968; AAYA 4

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Gale Literary Criticism Series (continued)

Ref
PN
451
D52
1978

Dictionary of Literary Biography

Biographical--a good overview of an author's life and work. Articles are fairly long. Selected volumes of the Dictionary of Literary Biography deal with authors of specific literary movements and genres. Use the index in the back of the latest volume or the "Index to Authors" in the last volume of CLC.

Ref
PS
129
D48
1982

Dictionary of Literary Biography
Documentary Series

"Depicting the Lives and Work of Authors--Including Photographs, Manuscript Facsimiles, Letters, Notebooks, Interviews, and Contemporary Assessments"--from frontispiece. Each volume is devoted to only a few major authors. Many illustrations.

Ref
PS
221
D5

Dictionary of Literary Biography--Yearbook

Summarizes "current literary activity." Gives an update of the author's work, discusses new books and other writings and includes a bibliography (with full citations) of the author's publications, interviews, etc. for the period encompassed by the yearbook.

Ref
PN
3373
S56

Short Story Criticism

These first two volumes of a proposed, ongoing cover twenty-six major authors. Entries consist of excerpts of criticism with full citations (you may then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to locate the complete text of the criticism). Entries are several pages long. There is a Story Title Index and a Cumulative Index which cross references to the entire Gale series.

Ref
PN
761
N5

Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism

"Excerpts from Criticism of the Works of Novelists, Poets, Playwrights, Short Story Writers, Who Died between 1800 and 1900, from the First Published Critical Appraisals to Current Evaluations."

Covers a variety of genres and nationalities. An entry on an author consists of the following: author heading, biographical and critical introduction, principal works, excerpts of criticism (with citations) and additional bibliography. Entries are extensive.

Ref
PN
771
T83

Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism

TCLC is arranged like CLC but covers authors who died between 1900-1960 while the latter covers authors who are, for the most part, still living. Excerpts of criticism with full citations. Entries are long. In the case of multiple inclusions of an author, criticism is taken from different sources.

Additional Biographical and Critical Sources

Ref
PS
153
N5
A344
1991

African American Writers

"...an introduction to the work of African American American writers who have made a significant contribution to African American and United States letters, culture, and history..."

Articles include brief biographies, "a survey of subjects principal writings and an assessment of the work as a whole." Also included are selected bibliographies of the subject's writings in chronological order, and lists of references for further research.

Ref
PS
147
A4

American Women Writers

"[C]overs contributions to American writing by women from colonial times to the present." Critical and biographical entries with bibliographies of author's works. Gives references for further study. Length of articles vary according to the author's significance. Four volumes, published in 1979.

Ref
PS
129
A552

American Writers

Long, in-depth articles containing biographical and critical information. Each article contains a bibliography of sources of criticism. A very useful source.

Ref
PS
153
N5
R65
1990

Harlem Renaissance and Beyond: Literary Biographies of 100 Black Women Writers 1900 - 1945

Brief biographies with bibliographies of primary and secondary sources.

Ref
PR
821
C7
1983

Magill: Critical Survey of Long Fiction

This is a multi-volume set. It consists of long biographical and analytical entries with background information on the works and their sources.

Ref
PS
151
M54
1991

Modern American Women Writers

"...critical and biographical essays about forty-one representative women writers who have published in the United States since the 1870's."

Essays are about twenty pages long, with extensive bibliographies of primary and secondary sources. This would be an excellent source for beginning your research if you are studying one of these authors.

BOOKS

BOOKS ON INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS

Although proper names for people and places, etc. are not included in Library of Congress Subject Headings, they can be used as subjects in ALADDIN or the card catalog. Therefore, to find biographies, books of criticism or bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author, simply type s/ (for a subject search of that author), and then enter the author's last name, first initial. At this point, scan the list of entries until you find the appropriate subheading (for example --bibliography, --criticism and interpretation, --biography)

Example:

```
s/baldwin,james
J MURREY ATKINS LIBRARY - - - - - - - ALADDIN - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - SUBJECT
YOU SEARCHED: s/baldwin,james

 1>     4 Baldwin, James,  1924-
 2.     1 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Bibliography.
 3.     2 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Biography.
 4.     1 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Characters -- Women.
 5.     7 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Criticism and interpretation.
 6.     1 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Criticism and interpretation --
          Congresses.
 7.     2 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Interviews.
 8.     1 Baldwin, James,  1924- -- Knowledge -- Performing arts.
 9.     1 Baldwin, James,  1924-  Sonny's blues.
10.       Baldwin, James Arthur,  1924-
11.     1 Baldwin, James Mark,  1861-1934.
12.     1 Baldwin Library -- Bibliography -- Catalogs.
13.     1 Baldwin locomotives.
14.       Baldwin M. Baldwin Foundation.

Enter the line number of the item you want to see, or
PS.......Previous screen   NS..........Next screen
?.....Menu-driven search   HELP...About this screen   .......Any command or /?
```

INDIVIDUAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

If you are doing in depth research on an author, the best place to begin your search is with a bibliography devoted to the work of that author. Bibliographies will frequently be divided up by the titles of poems, stories etc. and will direct you to criticism on a particular work. Disadvantages are that bibliographies may not be up to date; you will need to use additional sources if you need recent or current criticism. Also, they are not available on every author.

Use ALADDIN to find bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author. Type s/ (for a subject search for books about an author), and then enter the author's last name and first initial. Example: At this point, scan the list of the author's name and birth (and death) dates for the subheading --bibliography:

```
ca
J MURREY ATKINS LIBRARY - - - - - - - ALADDIN - - - - - - - - - - - - - CATALOG CARD
YOU CHOSE: Baldwin, James, 1924- -- Bibliography.

 CALL NUMBER: Z8068.74 S72
      AUTHOR: Standley, Fred L.
       TITLE: James Baldwin, a reference guide / Fred L. Standley and
              Nancy V. Standley.
   PUB. DATA: Boston : G. K. Hall, c1980.
 DESCRIPTION: xv, 310 p. ; 24 cm.
        NOTE: Includes index.
     SUBJECT: Baldwin, James, 1924- --Bibliography.
 ADDED ENTRY: Standley, Nancy V.



Enter
PS.......Previous screen   C......Copy availability   HR...........Hold a book
?.....Menu-driven search   HELP...About this screen   .......Any command or /?
```

Note: At present, ALADDIN contains records for all books processed by the library since 1977. ONLY RECORDS NOT YET ENTERED INTO THE ALADDIN SYSTEM CAN BE FOUND THROUGH THE CARD CATALOG. THUS, ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE LIBRARY'S HOLDINGS CAN BE FOUND BY USING THE CARD CATALOG.

If you need additional help with locating books, please ask a librarian at the 1st floor reference desk.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON MORE THAN ONE AUTHOR

These will be useful primarily for finding information on writers of fiction. They consist of lists of references to criticism in periodical articles, books and essays.

Ref
Z
1231
F4
K57

American Fiction to 1900

Annotated. Includes forty one authors. A source for bibliographies, checklists, biographies, checklists, biographies, critical studies.

Ref
Z
1231
F4
W64

American Fiction 1900-1950

Brief biographical statements are followed by well written, evaluative essays covering: bibliographies on the author, works of fiction, biographies and criticism. Use for in-depth research.

Ref
Z
1229
W8
W45

American Women Writers: An Annotated Bibliography of Criticism

Source of background works for the study of women in literature. Annotated. Criticism on women writers as a group. For in-depth research.

Ref
Z
6511
H38

Index to Literary Biography

International in scope, comprehensive. Use for less well known authors. Symbols listed with entries are explained in the front of volume one.

Ref
Z
6511
L56

Literary Criticism and Authors' Biographies: An Annotated Index

"This index will help you find book chapters about the lives and works of authors." Annotated.

Ref
Z
6511
W44
1984

Literary Criticism Index

This is useful for finding a large number of sources on an author or on an individual work. However it involves a two step process as most of the entries are to bibliographies, checklists, etc. and the user must go to the books and journals cited in the second source for the actual criticism. Atkins Library has most of the sources. Use this if you are having trouble finding sufficient information in other bibliographies.

Ref
Z
6511
M25

Magill's Bibliography of Literary Criticism

This is an excellent source for criticism. Start here. Arranged by author with individual works arranged under author entries. Four volumes; title index in volume 4.

SHORT STORIES

Sources for Criticism

Ref
PN
3321
C7

Magill: Critical Survey of Short Fiction

This is a very useful source for criticism of short fiction. Biographical and analytical entries. Short bibliographies at the ends of articles. An author/title index is located in the back of volume 7. Volumes 1 and 2 contain essays on the history and craft of short fiction from various cultures and time periods.

Ref
PN
3373
S56

Short Story Criticism

These first two volumes of a proposed, ongoing cover twenty-six major authors. Entries consist of excerpts of criticism with full citations (you may then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to locate the complete text of the criticism). Entries are several pages long. There is a Story Title Index and a Cumulative Index which cross references to the entire Gale series.

Ref
Z
5917
S5
W33

Twentieth Century Short Story Explication: Interpretations, 1900-1966 of Short Fiction Since 1800, 2nd. ed.

This is a useful checklist of criticism on short stories; organized by author and story title. Includes major authors from America and England a well as several other non-English language countries. Author index.

Updated by:

Ref
Z
5917
S5
W33
1977

20th Century Short Story Explication: Interpretations, 1900-1975, of Short Fiction Since 1800. Full citations of the books used are listed in the back of the book under the name of the critic. Index to authors.

Various supplements to these volumes are shelved with them.

Ref
Z
1231
F4
W43

American Short Fiction, Criticism and Scholarship, 1959-77: a Checklist

Treats more than 500 authors. Entries on individual works and general studies. A checklist of criticism and biographical information. Use for in-depth research.

Ref
Z
6511
M25

Magill's Bibliography of Literary Criticism

This an excellent source for criticism. Start here. Arranged by author with individual works arranged under author entries. Four volumes; title index in volume 4.

BOOK REVIEWS

For some authors, book reviews may be the only source of criticism you will be able to find. For other authors, book reviews are excellent supplements to the information located in books and reference works.

The two best sources for book reviews are:

INDEX
Z
1219
C95

Book Review Digest

"Book Review Digest provides excerpts and citations to reviews of current fiction and non-fiction written in English. Arranged by author and then by book title. Use the index for the year your book was first published and the following year's index.

Yearly since 1905.

INDEX
Z
1035
A1
B6

Book Review Index

Indexes more sources than Book Review Digest, but does not provide excerpts. Begins with 1965. 1965 through 1968 are yearly volumes. 1969 through 1979 are cumulated and after that the index is again yearly. Entries are arranged by author and then by book title. Codes for sources are explained in the front of each volume.

See also the book review sections at the ends of:

Humanities Index (INDEX AI3 R492)

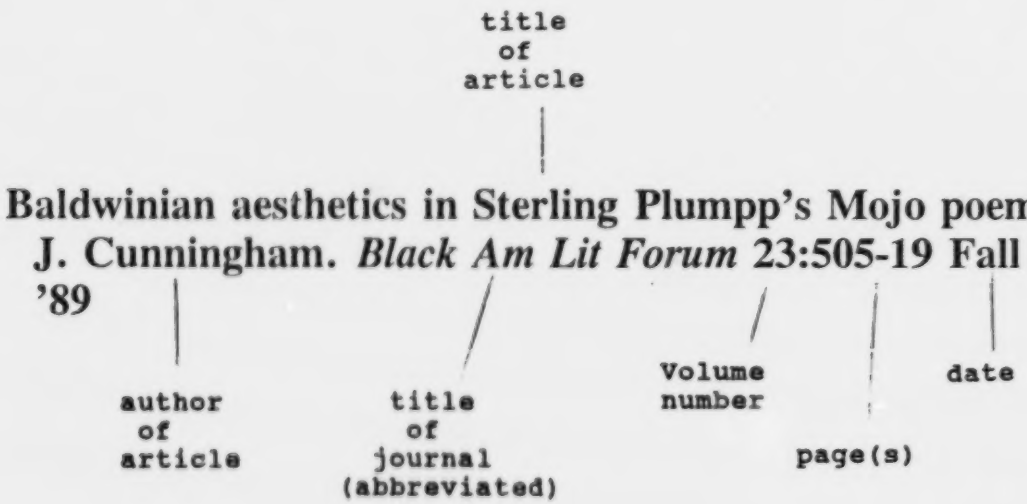
Library Literature (INDEX Z666 S211)

InfoTrac is also an excellent source for book reviews written within the past five to ten years. Select the **keyword** option for your search. Type one word from the author's name and one significant word from the title of the book. Be sure to use all three parts of the index--the current and backfile of the General Periodicals Index and the Newspaper Index.

PERIODICAL INDEXES

Most journals are indexed in one or more periodical indexes. Indexes range from the very broad in scope to those more specialized by discipline. Indexes are generally arranged alphabetically by subject; relevant citations follow each heading. The citation includes:

Author(s) of the journal article
Title of the journal article
    a list of abbreviation is located
    in the front of the index volume
Volume number, and if available, issue
    number of the journal
Page(s) on which the article appears
Date of the journal



INDEX
Z
2011
M69

Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL) V. 1- 1920-

This index is useful for in-depth research. It indexes journals, bulletins, newsletters, etc. Arranged chronologically. Look in the table of contents for the sections labeled "Middle English and Fifteenth Century" and "Sixteenth Century."

James Baldwin

9971. Baylor, Cherry Revona. James Baldwin and the Fall of Man. Unpub. doct. diss., Columbia Univ. Teachers College, 1985. [Abstr. in DA (47) 4005–6A.]

9972. Djankov, Krăstan. Harlemskijat propovednik – buntar. (The rebel and preacher of Harlem.) *In* (pp. 5–11) Ot planinata văzvestjavaj! (Go tell it on the mountain.) Sofia: Narodna kultura.

9973. Friedrich, Otto. Bearing witness to the truth. James Baldwin: 1924–1987. Time, 14 Dec., 80–1.

9974. Harris, Trudier. Black women in the fiction of James Baldwin. (Bibl. 1986, 11120.) Rev. by Violet Harrington Bryan in SCR (4:2) 119–21.

9975. Hubbard, Dolan. Preaching the Lord's word in a strange land: the influence of the black preaching style on black American prose fiction. *See* **7370.**

9976. Schnapp, Patricia Lorine. The liberation theology of James Baldwin. Unpub. doct. diss., Bowling Green State Univ. [Abstr. in DA (48) 1456A.]

INDEX
PE
1
A2

Abstracts of English Studies
v. 1-21 1958-78 (22 1978-79) 23- 1979-

This is a quarterly index to articles (with short abstracts) dealing with American and English literature.

You find the author's name in a cumulated "Index C" in the back of each volume. Periodical abbreviations are explained in "Index A".

Atkins Library subscribes to many of the journals indexed in this source.

UNITED STATES

UNITED STATES I. PARTICULARISM AND REGIONALISM

Black Studies

87-1169. Overton, Betty J. *Black Women Preachers: A Literary Overview,* SoQ, 23, 3, 1985, 157-66. Writers as dissimilar as Langston Hughes, Claude Brown, Ann Shockley, Kristin Hunter, and James Baldwin have portrayed black women preachers. Their composite image is negative. The Reverend Margaret Alexander in Hughes's play *The Amen Corner* is one example of a woman who, even when she is powerful in the pulpit, is inadequate in private life. Characterization of the women generally parallels that of male black ministers. The prevailing authorial attitude, however, is that women in the pulpit are misplaced. L.H.M.

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INDEX
AI
3
E752

Essay and General Literature Index

1900-

This is an important bibliographical index to collections of essays in books. The emphasis is on the humanities and the social sciences. Material under a person (author, etc.) is arranged as follows: 1. Author's works; 2. Works about the author (biographical or overall discussions of his/her work); 3. Criticism. Semiannual with a permanent cumulation every five years.

About individual works

Another county

Thelwell, M. Baldwin's New York novel. (*In* Thelwell, M. Duties, pleasures, and conflicts p154-69)

Go tell it on the mountain

Campbell, J. Retreat into self: Ralph Ellison's Invisible man and James Baldwin's Go tell it on the mountain. (*In* Campbell, J. Mythic black fictions p87-110)

Campbell, Jane, 1946-. Mythic black fiction; the transformation of history. University of Tenn. Press 1986 180p ISBN 0-87049-508-9 LC 86-6909

INDEX
AI
3
R492

Humanities Index

1974-

Cumulative index to English-language periodicals. Author and subject entries are in one alphabet. It includes language and literature subjects as well as other humanities areas.

Baldwin, James, 1924-1987

about

Black boys and the FBI. J. Campbell. *Times Lit Suppl* no4574:1290+ N 30-D 6 '90

One Boricua's Baldwin: a personal remembrance. R. Márquez. *Am Q* 42:456-77 S '90

Writing about me writing about you. J. Campbell. *Times Lit Suppl* no4554:752 Jl 13-19 '90

Influence

Baldwinian aesthetics in Sterling Plumpp's Mojo poems. J. Cunningham. *Black Am Lit Forum* 23:505-18 Fall '89

INDEX
Z
7006
M64

MLA-International Bibliography
1926-

This is a major index to books and articles published on modern languages, literature, folklore, and linguistics.

Part 1 is arranged by country or type of literature and then by period and author. Volume I contains citations to British and American literature; Volume II covers Romance and other non-English language authors.

From Part 1, Volume II

BALDWIN, JAMES (1924-1987)

[8202] Achebe, Chinua. "James Baldwin." 213-217 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Reminiscence.]

[8203] Grosvenor, Verta Mae. "'Vous êtes Swing'." 51-58 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Reminiscence.]

[8204] Marquez, Roberto. "One Boricua's Baldwin: A Personal Remembrance." *AQ*. 1990 Sept.; 42(3): 456-477.

[8205] McCarthy, Mary. "Baldwin." 47-50 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Reminiscence.]

[8206] Mikell, Pat. "The Last Days." 65-72 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Reminiscence.]

[8207] Redmond, Eugene B. "'The Way Love Never Dies'." 79-94 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York. Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Relationship to civil rights movement.]

[8208] Troupe, Quincy. "The Last Interview (1987)." 186-212 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Interview.]

[8209] Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1989. 270 pp. [Incl. prev. pub. material.]

[8210] Watkins, Mel. "An Appreciation." 107-123 in Troupe, Quincy, ed. & pref.; Soyinka, Wole, fwd. *James Baldwin: The Legacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster; 1989. 270 pp. [†Treatment of African American identity.]

Drama/Blues for Mr. Charlie (1964)

[8211] Hendrickson, Roberta Makashay. "The Civil Rights Movement in American Fiction: A Feminist Reading." *DAI*. 1990 Aug.; 51(2): 504A. [†Treatment of civil rights movement; relationship to racism; sexism. Feminist approach. Dissertation abstract.]

Novel

[8212] Eguíluz Ortiz de Latierro, Federico. "El 'otro país' de James Baldwin." 27-34 in Sección Departamental de Logroño, introd. *Actas de las I jornadas de lengua y literatura inglesa y norteamericana*. Logroño: Pubs. del Colegio Univ. de Logroño; 1990. 178 pp. [†By African American novelists.]

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MLA
Part 2 is arranged in alphabetical order by subject and serves as an index to part 1. In the examples below, the Roman numeral refers to the volume of Part 1 and the rest of the number to the specific entry.

Part 2 indicates the CLASSIFIED section in PART 1 for a give author or entry and also lists entries that will not be found directly under the author's name. Full citations are in Part 1.

BALDWIN, JAMES (1924-1987)
See also classified section: I:8202 ff.
American literature. Fiction. 1900-1999.
Wright, Richard. Treatment of rape compared to BALDWIN, JAMES, Morrison, Toni. Dissertation abstract. I:10443

NOTE: Prior to 1981 MLA was a one volume index and was arranged somewhat like Part 1 is now. There was no subject index. You need to know the country and language appropriate to the author and then look alphabetically by his or her name. Subject entries come before author entries in each division.

MLA on CD-ROM

The easiest way for you to search recent journal articles on the works of an author or a literary topic will be to use the computerized version of MLA International Bibliography. The volumes since 1981 to within a few months of the present are available in CD-ROM format (compact disk, read only memory). This version of the MLA contains a year or so more information than the printed index. You may search by author, title of work, and by keyword. Two keywords, such as an author's last name and a theme or an identifying word from a title or theory, may be combined using "boolean" commands ("and," "or"). You will not need to search on the word "criticism" because just about everything in the index refers to criticism.

You may limit your search by language, by publication type, and by date of publication. There is a handout near the machines which explains how to use the various searching strategies. You will need to make an appointment in advance to use MLA on CD-ROM. You will also need a current ID card and a "clean" record in ALADDIN. If you need assistance a librarian will help you.

Notes and WORD OF WARNING:

1. Both the printed and the computerized versions of the MLA International Bibliography contain references to books and dissertations as well as to articles. Atkins library does not have any of the dissertations. These will be listed as DAI in the printed version and Dissertations Abstracts International in the computerized version of the index. You can limit a search in the computer to find references to periodical articles and books, but **not** dissertations. The books listed are books of essays. Check for them in ALADDIN by the title of the book (not the book chapter) or by the editor's name (comes after the word "IN" in the CD version). Also, there are many foreign language articles in the index. Remember, you should limit your search by language when using the CD. If we do not have the source you need, you may try to get it via Interlibrary Loan (this takes 2 to 4 weeks).

2. Finally, do not depend on either version of the MLA for all of your research. In many if not most cases, there will be better and easier sources of information to in books and reference books. The MLA is important for recent information.

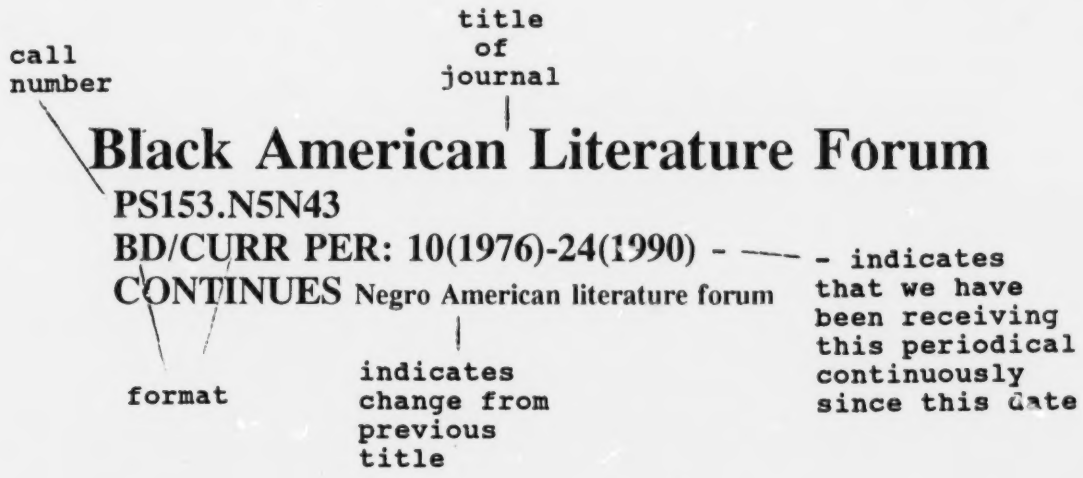
P.A.S.L. Periodicals and Serials List

P.A.S.L. is a computer printout listing of all periodicals and serials owned by Atkins Library. Look here to see if the library has the periodical you need.

There are two versions of P.A.S.L. The green covered P.A.S.L. is a computer print-out which lists the periodicals currently received by the library. Periodicals (magazines, journals, newspapers, yearbooks and other annuals) are listed alphabetically by title. Each entry gives information on the volumes and years of a periodical owned by the library, the format in which it appears, and the call number.

If you do not find a journal title in the green covered P.A.S.L., check the blue one, or check the title on an ALADDIN terminal. P.A.S.L. copies are located on the first floor in the reference area and on the second floor in the periodicals collection area.

Example:


call number
title of journal
Black American Literature Forum
PS153.N5N43
BD/CURR PER: 10(1976)-24(1990) -
CONTINUES Negro American literature forum
- indicates that we have been receiving this periodical continuously since this date
format
indicates change from previous title

LOCATION SYMBOLS (format in which the periodical is kept)

CURR or **CURR PER:**	**CURRENT** year issues of the periodical
BD or **BD PER:**	Older issues which are in **BOUND PERIODICAL** format
MIC:	**MICROFICHE** or **MICROFILM** volumes of a periodical. These are arranged by call number in metal cabinets near the Periodicals desk on the second floor.